

## Message Text

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22-12

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SP-02 IO-03 ARA-06 H-01 L-01 PRS-01 INR-05

ACDA-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AF-04 /067 W

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R 051457Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9571

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0306

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, AO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER ON ANGOLA

1. AT NATO AMBASSADORS' LUNCH FEB 4 PORTUGUESE AMB COLACO REPORTED ON VISIT OF FOREIGN MINISTER MELO ANTUNES. INFORMATION WAS SAME AS THAT GIVEN CHARGE EARLIER BY COLACE (PRAGUE 0062) EXCEPT FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON ANGOLA WHICH MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST.

2. IN DESCRIBING ANTUNES' TALKS WITH HIS CZECHOSLOVAK HOSTS, COLACO SAID THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA. ASKED WHAT POSITION ANTUNES TOOK ON SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION, COLACO REPORTED ANTUNES AS SAYING

(A) HE WAS FOR RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA. (B) IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT ANGOLA NOT BECOME ANOTHER VIETNAM OR KOREA. (C) SOVIET-CUBAN INTERVENTION WAS "NATURAL" IN THAT PORTUGAL'S DEPARTURE CREATED A VACUUM WHICH WOULD NECESSARILY BE FILLED. ASKED IF ANTUNES  
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SPOKE WITH APPROBATION OF THE SOVIET-CUBAN ACTION,

COLACO SAID NOT WITH APPROBATION, SIMPLY WITH THE RECOGNITION THAT THIS WAS "A NATURAL FILLING OF A VACUUM."

3. ASKED WHY ANGOLA WAS NOT MENTIONED IN THE COMMUNIQUE, COLACO SAID HIS PERSONAL VIEW WAS THAT THIS WAS BECAUSE THE CZECHS FELT IT IMPOLITE FOR THEM TO SPEAK OUT PUBLICLY ON ANGOLA IN A COMMUNIQUE WITH THE PORTUGUESE RIGHT NOW.

4. COMMENT: THERE WAS NO REAL DISCUSSION OF THE

POLICY BECAUSE THE NATO AMBASSADORS HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THEIR LUNCHES ARE MONITORED BY THE CZECHS, AND SO DO NOT LIKE TO DEBATE POLICY ISSUES. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD CHARGE PRIVATELY AFTERWARD HE WAS SHOCKED BY THE STATEMENT OF RUSSIA'S "NATURAL" PENETRATION INTO ANGOLA. CHARGE WAS SEATED NEXT TO COLACO AT LUNCH AND EXPRESSED US DIFFERENCE WITH THIS POINT OF VIEW ON ANGOLA.

PERRY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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